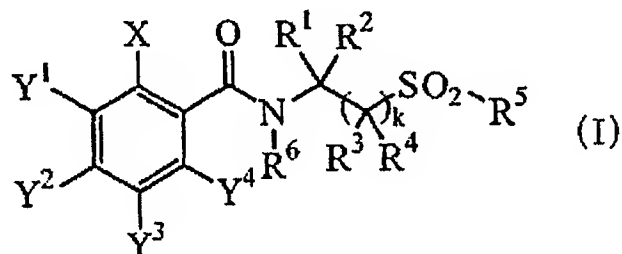


Amendments to the Claims:

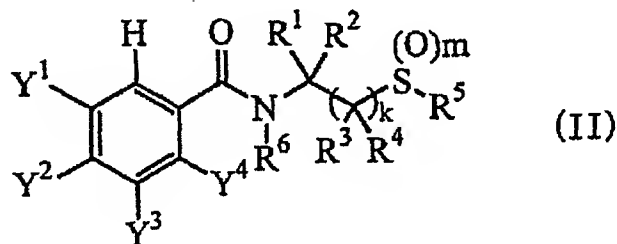
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

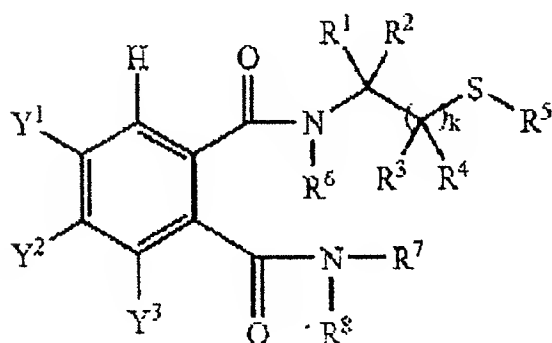
Claim 1. (Currently amended) A process for producing a 2-halogenobenzamide compound represented by general formula (I):



(wherein X, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, Y¹, Y², Y³, Y⁴ and k are as defined below),
 characterized by obtaining a benzamide compound represented by general formula (II):



(wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, Y¹, Y², Y³, Y⁴, k and m are as defined below), by
 oxidation of a sulfide compound represented by the general formula:

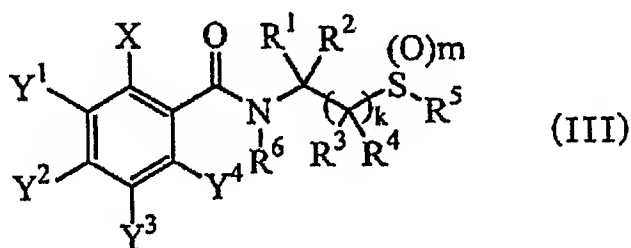


(wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , Y^1 , Y^2 , Y^3 and k are as defined below),
 allowing a halogenating agent to react with the benzamide compound represented by
 general formula (II),

(wherein each of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^6 , which may be the same or different, is a
 hydrogen atom or a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group, R^5 is a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group, k is 1 or 2, m is 1, Y^4
 is $-\text{CON}(R^7)R^8$ (wherein each of R^7 and R^8 are as defined below) and each of Y^1 , Y^2
 and Y^3 , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a
 cyano group; a nitro group; a (C₄-C₆)alkyl group; a (C₄-C₆)alkylcarbonyl group; a
 carboxyl group; a (C₄-C₁₂)alkoxycarbonyl group; a phenylcarbonyl group; a substituted
 phenylcarbonyl group having one or more substituents which may be the same or
 different and are selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₄-C₆)alkyl
 groups, (C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₄-C₆)alkyl groups and halo(C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups; a
 benzylcarbonyl group; a substituted benzylcarbonyl group having on the ring one or
 more substituents which may be the same or different and are selected from halogen
 atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₄-
 C₆)alkyl groups and halo(C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups; $-\text{CON}(R^7)R^8$ (wherein each of R^7 and
 R^8 , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom; a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a

phenyl group; or a substituted phenyl group having one or more substituents which may be the same or different and are selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups and halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups; ~~a pyridyl group; a substituted pyridyl group having one or more substituents which may be the same or different and are selected from hydrogen atom, halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₄-C₆)alkyl groups and halo(C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups; a benzyl group; or a substituted benzyl group having on the ring one or more substituents which may be the same or different and are selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₄-C₆)alkyl groups and halo(C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups;~~—N(R⁷)—COR⁸ (wherein R⁷ and R⁸ are as defined above); ~~a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more substituents which may be the same or different and are selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups and halo(C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups; a phenoxy group; a substituted phenoxy group having one or more substituents which may be the same or different and are selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups and halo(C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups; a heteroaryloxy group; or a substituted heteroaryloxy group having one or more substituents which may be the same or different and are selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups and halo(C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups, any adjacent two members of a group consisting of Y¹, Y², Y³ and Y⁴ being able to bind to each other to form a fused ring comprising a (C₃-C₄)alkylene group or a (C₃-C₄)alkenylene group, which may have on the ring one or more substituents which may be the same or different and are selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₄-C₆)alkylcarbonyl groups, carboxyl group, (C₄-C₁₂)alkoxycarbonyl groups; phenyl group; substituted phenyl groups~~

having one or more substituents which may be the same or different and are selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₄-C₆)alkyl groups and halo(C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups; benzyl group; and substituted benzyl groups having on the ring one or more substituents which may be the same or different and are selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₄-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₄-C₆)alkyl groups and halo(C₄-C₆)alkoxy groups) in the presence of a palladium catalyst to obtain a substituted benzamide compound represented by general formula (III):



(wherein X is a chlorine atom, a bromine atom or an iodine atom, and R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, Y¹, Y², Y³, Y⁴, k and m are as defined above), and then allowing the substituted benzamide compound of general formula (III) obtained, to react with an oxidizing agent after or without isolating the substituted benzamide compound.

Claims 2 – 5 (Cancelled).

Claim 6. (New) A process according to claim 1, wherein R⁷ is H and R⁸ is a substituted phenyl group having one or more substituents.

Claim 7. (New) A process according to claim 6, wherein R⁸ is a substituted phenyl group having two substituents.

Claim 8. (New) A process according to claim 7, wherein R⁸ is 2-methyl-4-{1,2,2,2-tetrafluoro-1-(trifluoromethyl)ethyl}phenyl.